IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 9-17, 33-41, and 51.

1.   (Previously Presented)   A method of managing execution of query operations in a data processing system, comprising:

issuing, by a requesting entity, a request to perform a composite query operation defined by at least an initial query operation and a plurality of subsequent query operations to be executed against a data repository of the data processing system;

executing the initial query operation;

determining an operation status of the initial query operation;

selecting one of the plurality of subsequent query operations based on the operation status;

performing the selected subsequent query operation;

updating the operation status based on a result of the subsequent query operation;

managing execution of any remaining subsequent query operations on the basis of the updated operation status; and

upon determining the composite query operation has completed, returning a result of the composite query operation to the requesting entity.

2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the determining and managing are performed by a composite query operations manager.

3.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the requesting entity is an application and wherein the determining and managing are performed by a composite query operations manager.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the initial and the subsequent query operation are SQL statements.

5.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining a number of items affected by the initial query operation.

6.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining whether the initial query operation completed successfully.

7.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining, on the basis of a return code received upon completion of the initial query operation, whether the initial query operation completed successfully.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein managing execution of the subsequent query operation comprises:

executing the subsequent query operation only if the initial query operation did not complete successfully.

9 – 25 (Cancelled)

26.   (Previously Presented)   A computer readable storage medium containing a program which, when executed, performs a process of managing execution of query operations in a data processing system, the process comprising:

receiving, from a requesting entity, a request to perform a composite query operation defined by at least an initial query operation and a plurality of subsequent query operations to be executed against a data repository of the data processing system;

executing the initial query operation;

determining an operation status of the initial query operation;

selecting one of the plurality of subsequent query operations based on the operation status;

performing the selected subsequent query operation;

updating the operation status based on a result of the subsequent query operation;

managing execution of any remaining subsequent query operations on the basis of the updated operation status; and

upon determining the composite query operation has completed, returning a result of the composite query operation to the requesting entity.

27.   (Previously Presented)   The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein the determining and managing are performed by a composite query operations manager.

28.   (Previously Presented)   The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein the initial and the subsequent query operation are SQL statements.

29.   (Previously Presented)   The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining a number of items affected by the initial query operation.

30.   (Previously Presented)   The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining whether the initial query operation completed successfully.

31.   (Previously Presented)   The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining, on the basis of a return code received upon completion of the initial query operation, whether the initial query operation completed successfully.

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32.   (Previously Presented)   The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein managing execution of the subsequent query operation comprises:

executing the subsequent query operation only if the initial query operation did not complete successfully.

33- 49. (Cancelled)

50.   (Previously Presented)   A data processing system comprising:

a data repository; and

a composite query operations manager residing in memory for managing execution of query operations in the data processing system, the composite query operations manager being configured for:

receiving a request to perform a composite query operation defined by at least an initial query operation and a plurality of subsequent query operations to be executed against the data repository;

executing the initial query operation;

determining an operation status of the initial query operation;

selecting one of the plurality of subsequent query operations based on the operation status;

performing the selected subsequent query operation;

updating the operation status based on a result of the subsequent query operation;

managing execution of any remaining subsequent query operations on the basis of the updated operation status; and

upon determining the composite query operation has completed, storing and returning a result of the composite query operation to the requesting entity.

51. – 54. (Cancelled)